

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A molten metal supplying system, comprising:

(1) a container having:

a portable container main body capable of being hermetically sealed and storing molten metal, that has a passage through which a compressed gas is introduced from an outside;

a pipe that has an outlet and supplies the molten metal stored in the container main body to the outside: the outlet downwardly extending;

a reception dish that receives the molten metal and that is capable of being placed below the outlet of the pipe;

a holding member that has a fulcrum to the pipe and rotatably holds the reception dish;

a wire that has a first end and a second end, the first end of which being connected to at least one of the reception dish and the holding member; and

a pair of channel members disposed at the outer bottom of the container main body in a first direction, and

(2) a vehicle having:

a fork that is inserted into the pair of channel members and removed therefrom;

a carriage on which the fork is mounted;

a lift mechanism that lifts up and down the carriage; and

a wire pull and return mechanism that is mounted on the carriage and pulls and returns the wire with the second end thereof.

2. (Original) The molten metal supplying system as set forth in claim 1,

wherein the pipe extends in an outer-peripheral direction of the container main body in a second direction that is different from the first direction, and

wherein the wire pull and return mechanism is mounted on the carriage in a third direction that is approximately opposite to the second direction.

3. (Original) The molten metal supplying system as set forth in claim 1,
wherein the vehicle has at least one of a gas compressor and a gas tank that supplies compressed gas to the container main body, and

wherein the wire pull and return mechanism has an air cylinder that is driven by a compressed gas supplied from at least one of the gas compressor and the gas tank.

4. (Original) The molten metal supplying system as set forth in claim 3,
wherein the vehicle has:
means for detecting the position of a drive shaft of the air cylinder; and
means for controlling the gas supplied from at least one of the gas compressor and the gas tank to the container main body corresponding to the detected position.

5. (Original) A container, comprising:
a portable container main body capable of being hermetically sealed and storing molten metal, that has a passage through which a compressed gas is introduced from an outside;
a pipe that has an outlet and supplies the molten metal stored in the container main body to the outside: the outlet downwardly extending;
a reception dish that receives the molten metal and that is capable of being placed below the outlet of the pipe; and
a holding member that has a fulcrum to the pipe and rotatably holds the reception dish.

6. (Original) The container as set forth in claim 5, further comprising:

a wire that has a first end and a second end, the first end thereof is connected to at least one of the reception dish and the holding member and the second end thereof is capable of being connected to a wire pull and return mechanism.

7. (Original) The container as set forth in claim 6, further comprising:

a pair of channel members disposed at an outer bottom of the container main body in a first direction and into and from which a fork disposed in a vehicle that conveys the container is inserted and removed,

wherein the pipe extends in an outer-peripheral direction of the container main body in a second direction that is different from the first direction, and

wherein the second end of the wire is pulled in a third direction approximately opposite to the second direction.

8. (Original) The container as set forth in claim 7,

wherein the angle between the first direction and the second direction is approximately 45 degrees.

9. – 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) A container, comprising:

a portable container main body capable of being hermetically sealed and storing molten metal, that has a passage through which a compressed gas is introduced from an outside;

a pipe that has an outlet and supplies the molten metal stored in the container main body to the outside: the outlet downwardly extending;

a reception dish that receives the molten metal and that is capable of being placed below the outlet of the pipe;

a holding member that has a fulcrum to the pipe and rotatably holds the reception dish between a first position in which the holding member is placed

underneath the outlet of the pipe and a second position in which the holding member is retreated from the underneath of the outlet of the pipe;

a wire that has a first end and a second end, the first end is connected to at least one of the reception dish and the holding member;

a valve that has a first valve opening leading to the passage of the container main body, a second valve opening leading to a pipe for applying and reducing pressure, and a third valve opening leading to an air release portion and that has a first mode in which the gas flows between the first valve opening and the third valve opening and a second mode in which the gas flows between the first valve opening and the second valve opening; and

an operation lever that is connected to the other end of the wire and to the valve, that is manually rotatable between a first operation position and a second operation position, that causes the valve to be placed in the first mode and the reception dish to be placed in the first position when placed in the first operation position, and that causes the valve to be placed in the second mode and the reception dish to be placed in the second position when placed in the second operation position.

13. (Original) The container as set forth in claim 12,

wherein the reception dish is rotatably mounted to the holding member.

14. (Original) The container as set forth in claim 12, further comprising:

a flow restriction portion that is disposed between the third valve opening of the valve and the air release portion, that allows gas to pass to flow, and that restricts the flow of molten metal.